

Those to Serve

(B) Jorge Garza
(FV) Mike Mehaffey
(O) Doug Pruett
(A) Michael Flores
1st prayer Keith Stifflemire
2nd prayer: Calvin Burks
Announcements: Jack Wall
Singing: Kevin Grant

October 4th

Mission Sunday

October 11th

Men's Business Meeting

October 24, 2026

Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:00 AM

October 25th

Noon Fellowship

November 1st

Mission Sunday

Day light savings

November 8th

Friends & Family Day

Noon Fellowship

November 11th

Veterans Day

November 26th

Thanksgiving Day

Happy Birthday

Judd Wall Oct. 10th

Mike Mallett Oct 21st

Ruby Jones Oct. 24th

Sharon Boatwright Oct. 27th

Valerie Garza Nov 1st

Tammy Burks Nov 3rd

Prayer List:

James & Jennifer Lovell
Joy Payne
Michael Payne
Jorge & Valerie Garza
Virgina Lovell
Linda Houts
Wanda Kitchens
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

Trouble on the Farm and in the Church

When I was quite young I learned some important lessons regarding farm work. Mules were my favorite beast of burden (those were the days when there were very few tractors on Missouri farms). But I immediately learned to regard with much awe the hind feet of a mule. Yet the lesson I learned was that -- a mule can't pull while kicking -- and he can't kick while pulling. Even now, when the mule is almost extinct on the farms, we can learn a lesson in the church from him. In some places brethren fuss and 'kick' so much that they just can't get down to pulling the load of spiritual service to the Lord. But if they can be induced to get busy pulling, they will almost always give up their kicking. Perhaps preachers should be the first to be impressed with the principle we learned from the good ole mule.
by Leslie Diestelkamp

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

October 4, 2026



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path
through the forest: the more often you use it, the less
obstruction you find in the way."*

Sunday Worship:

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

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Grow in Knowledge

Several years back there was a young preacher in South Texas. This preacher was a bilingual minister and was well known in this small town, and as such, when the county judge needed a translator, he would call on this preacher. One day, as he was waiting in the courtroom to serve as a translator, there was some commotion coming from the judge, bailiff, and lawyers. Somehow, the Bible used to swear in witnesses was misplaced and they could not find it. The judge met eyes with the preacher, and trying to avoid further delays, asked him, "you preach for the church of Christ, right?"

The preacher said yes and the judge replied, "well, the church of Christ's sure do know their bibles and pretty much have them memorized. We'll just use him." For the remainder of the day, when someone was giving sworn testimony, they would place their hand on the preacher's head and swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

The preacher in this story grew up and by the time he told me this story he was an old preacher. He didn't tell me this story out of pride or arrogance but rather to make a point: people don't know their bible like they used to. The data unfortunately seems to agree with this.

According to a Pew Research Center's study from 2023-2025 only about 33% of self-identified Christians in the United States read their Bible at least once per week outside of any church service. 46% of those surveyed admitted to seldom or never reading their bibles outside of services. The Pew Research Center's data is not the only study to show this trend either. According to a Lifeway study surveying roughly 2,000 self-identified Christians from February 2026, 31% said they read the Bible every day and 30% said they read it a few times a week, while 9% said they rarely or never read their bibles.

While these studies highlight Christendom as a whole, the numbers for the churches of Christ in the US are not much better. According to the survey done by the Pew Research Center, 45% of church of Christ members surveyed read their bible daily while 28%

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Grow in Knowledge

(Continued)

seldom or never read their bibles. Now, of course these numbers do not include the entirety of Christian and only include a small percentage, but there is a clear trend that is seen. Christians are no longer studying the Bible like they once did.

The problem with this trend is that Christians are called to live their lives based on what the Bible teaches, and if we don't know the book then we don't know what God expects from his people (1 Tim 4:13,15; 2 Tim 2:15). Many of these Christians were raised with biblical stories and were taught from a young age some of what the Bible teaches. This is a blessing, but unfortunately, as the data suggests, they do not further their knowledge (Heb 5:13-14). Due to this, many are running the risk of being led astray by preachers and teachers who abuse the word of God (2 Tim 4:3,4). In Acts 17:11, the Bereans are said to have studied the scriptures daily to see if what the Apostle Paul said was true or not. Paul was a teacher inspired by the Holy Spirit and yet the people he taught were commended for going to the word of God themselves to seek truth. If those in the first century studied the scriptures they had, how much more important do you suppose it is for Christians today to study all of their Bible?

We are told the Scriptures are all we need to be complete and equipped as Christians (2 Tim 3:16-17). We are told that through that study we grow in Christ (Eph 4:13-15). If this is the case it is crucial that we spend time in the Bible. While going to church services is of course one way that Christians grow in strength and knowledge, we cannot expect for only two days a week to be enough in our Christians education. Once upon a time the church was known for knowing their Bible. Hopefully we still strive to be known for that same thing.

Corey Tackett